



U. S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAY 12 2003

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

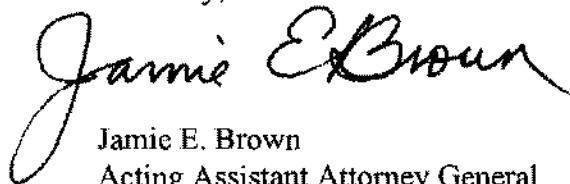
Dear Congressman Conyers:

Thank you for the letter you and other Members of Congress sent to the Attorney General regarding the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). We are sending a separate response to each signatory.

As you know, the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act (P.L. 107-273) gives the Attorney General discretion to determine where OVW will reside within the Department's organizational structure. After carefully and fully considering this matter, the Attorney General has decided that OVW will be a separate component within the DOJ. OVW will continue to benefit from the Office of Justice Programs' financial and grants management services. Moreover, because of their similar missions, the two offices will collaborate to ensure that the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are met.

We appreciate your continued interest in this matter and your support for efforts to prevent violence against women. If I can provide additional assistance in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie E. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Jamie E. Brown
Acting Assistant Attorney General